Compassionate appointment to dependents of deceased employees in banks

*468. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) how many employees have died in harness in different Public Sector Banks during the last three years;

(b) Out of these cases, how many dependents of the deceased have been given compassionate appointment;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Public Sector Banks have stopped recruitment on compassionate grounds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The information about number of employees in Public Sector Banks (PSBs) who died in harness and the number of their dependents who have been given appointment on compassionate grounds during the last three years, is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) As regards the appointments in PSBs on compassionate grounds, the Supreme Court, in the case of Umesh Kumar Nagpal *Vs.* State of Haryana & others in 1994, had, *inter alia*, decided that appointments in public services should be made only in cases where an employee dies in harness leaving his family *in penury* without any means of livelihood. Accordingly, the Indian Banks' Association framed and circulated to all PSBs in 2004, a model Scheme for payment of an ex-gratia amount in lieu of appointment on compassionate grounds, which has since been adopted by all PSBs.

Pay revision of PSU employees

*469: SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate number of employees working in the various public sector enterprises/undertakings in the country;

(b) whether Government have set up a Committee for the pay revision of PSU employees;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) by when its report is likely to be submitted to Government; and

(e) whether Government propose to grant interim relief to the employees till the recommendations are accepted?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) As on 31.03.2006, there were 16.49 lakh employees (excluding casual and daily rated workers) in various Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs). This number includes 3.09 lakh executives and non-unionised supervisors.

(b) Yes. The Government of India has set up on 30.11.2006 a Pay Revision Committee for executives and non-unionised supervisors of CPSEs. The Policy on wage revision related to unionized workers in CPSEs has been announced by the Government on 9.11.2006.

(c) Mr. Justice M.J. Rao (Retired Judge, Supreme Court of India) is the Chairman of the Pay Revision Committee. Dr. Nitish Sengupta, Shri P.C. Parakh and Shri R.S.S.L.N. Bhaskarudu are members. Secretary, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Government of India is the *ex-officio* Member. Joint Secretary, Department of Public Enterprises, Government of India is its Secretary.

(d) The Committee has been given 18 months period for making its recommendations.

(e) The Committee has not made any recommendation in this regard.

Projects undertaken in Rajasthan under AIBP

*470. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the status of various projects undertaken in Rajasthan, under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme during the last three years;

(b) the targeted time for completion of each of the above projects and physical achievements till date;

(c) whether some of the projects are lagging behind the schedule;